राष्ट्रपति श्री येल्त्सिन ने 29 जनवरी, 1993 को नई दिल्ली में संवाददाता सम्मेलन में यह कहा था कि भारत को चाहिए कि वह अपनी अखण्डता और एकता बनाए रखे और अविभाज्य बना रहे। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि कश्मीर पर भारत की स्थिति को रूस अपना समर्थन देना चाहता है। राष्ट्रपति श्री येल्त्सिन ने रूपया-रूबल विनिमय दर और उससे सम्बद्ध मसलों पर सहमति को व्यावहारिक और रचनात्मक सहमति माना।

(ग) राष्ट्रपति श्री येल्त्सिन की यात्रा के दौरान भारत और रूस के बीच मैत्री और सहयोग से सम्बद्ध एक नई संधि सम्पन्न हुई जिसने भारत-सोवियत संधि का स्थान लिया है।

Indo-Bangladesh relations

210. MISS. SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indo-Bangladesh relations have touched an all time low recently in the wake of Ayodhya situation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to improve the relations?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) In the wake of excessive and violent reactions in Bangladesh to developments in Ayodhya, our relations with Bangladesh have unfortunately come under some strain.

Our High Commission in Dhaka faced demonstrations and was stoned on December 6, 1992. Our High Commission library and the Indian Airlines's office in Dhaka were burnt on December 7, 1992.

Statements condemning "the demolition of the Babri Mosque" and calling upon Government of India "to rebuild the Mosque at its original site" were made by President and Prime Minister of Bangladesh as well as others. The proposed Long March to Ayodhya, the adoption of a critical resolution on the Ayodhya issue by the Bangladesh Parliament and the attempt to attribute the exclusive responsibility to India for the postponement of SAARC Summit in January 93 etc. have contributed to difficulties in Indo-Bangladesh relations.

(c) Deeply committed to maintenance of friendly relations with all our neighbours, Government remain hopeful that, given goodwill and concerted efforts by both sides, we will be able to resume the process of addressing various outstanding issues in our relations with Bangladesh.

Permanent membership in the security Council

211. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the permanent membership in the Security Council of UNO is likely to be increased; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to get the permanent membership in the Security Council?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) The issue of restructuring the UN including the question of expansion of the Security Council is under discussion in the UN. India has been emphasising the need to expand the Security Council, with equitable representation, at all appropriate multilateral and bilateral fora, in an effort to build a consensus on this issue. At the 47th UNGA. India and others tabled a Resolution on "Question of Equitable Representation and increase in the membership of the Security Council" which

was adopted by consensus. The Resolution requests the Secretary General to invite member States to submit, not later than 30 June, 1993, written comments on a possible review of the membership of the Security Council. The Resolution further requests the Secretary General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eight session, for its consideration, a report containing comments made by member States on the subject.

Assessment of nuclear capacity of Pakistan

212. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the Government's assessment about Nuclear capability of Pakistan; and

(b) the necessary steps taken to meet the challenge?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Government are aware of the clandestine and weapons-oriented nature of Pakistan's nuclear programme.

(b) Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

213. [*Transferred to 2nd March, 1993*]

Plan for investment in Food Processing Industry

214. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up a plan for massive investment in the food processing industry and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the break-up of the amount proposed to be invested in different sectors of the industry;

(c) the details of proposals received from foreign countries for investment in the industry; and

(d) the details of measures taken to liberalise the industry and the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) While the Government does not envisage massive direct investment by the Government in the food processing industry, several developmental plan schemes have been formulated to assist public joint cooperative|private sector in setting up and enlarging various food processing industries as well as assisting in development of infrastructure so as to facilitate investment by private sector in the food processing industries. The schemes include providing assistance for setting up of food processing industries, market development, infrastructure development, diversification of deep sea fishing operations research and development training etc.

(b) The sectoral break-up of the plan investment in different sectors of